

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

MRS. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. John McCullough.

WOODS MUSEUM. Broadway, corner of Third St. and Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

OLYMPIC THEATRE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

ROBINSON HALL. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

THEATRE COMIQUE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART. West Fourth Street—Open from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M.

ROMAN HYPODROME. Fourth Avenue and Twenty-seventh Street—Circus, acrobatics and menagerie, afternoon and evening, 5 and 8.

BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE. Fulton Avenue—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

GERMANIA THEATRE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

PARK THEATRE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

NIBLO'S. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

LYCEUM THEATRE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

BOTH'S THEATRE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

THEATRE COMIQUE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

WALLACK'S THEATRE. Broadway—Variety, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1875.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be warmer and partly cloudy.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—Gold advanced to 115½. Foreign exchange was quiet. Money on call was quoted at 2½ a 3 per cent. Stocks were active and firm.

The investigation of the Stockists case continues with painful interest.

The cheaper the Big Bonanza stocks the dearer they will be in the end.

MAYOR WICKHAM has the verdict of the Coroner's jury on the Duane street disaster. It is a good time to show us a little of the spirit of Andrew Jackson.

THE SENATE yesterday had a forlorn discussion about Pinchback. We print elsewhere as brief a report as possible. There is not enough of Pinchback to make him a topic of general interest now.

WE HAVE a strange and not very probable story about a negro barber in Georgia shooting himself because the whites would not recognize the privileges he had acquired under the Civil Rights bill. It is safe to assume that the example will not be followed.

THE REPORT we print of the Darien Canal Expedition will be read with much interest. From this we learn that the surveys of the isthmus are made with great rapidity. At the present time the Nicaragua route seems to be in favor. But, of course, we must wait for the conclusion of the Panama surveys before we come to a decision. The prospects are encouraging, and the result will be known in a few weeks.

THE BECKER TRIAL.—Oliver Johnson was the principal witness in the Becker trial yesterday, and made a favorable impression, we should imagine, from our reporter's observations on the trial. From the number of questions asked by Mr. Everts and denied by Judge Nelson, it would seem that the Judge is disposed to put some limit to the scope of the inquiry. There are only two witnesses we care to hear now—Mr. Becker and Mrs. Tilton.

A DESPATCH from Cleveland announces that a convention will be held in that city to organize a "greenback" party. No names are given and we are ignorant of the men who propose this new movement. But why limit the platform to greenbacks? Let us have oyster shells as money. The oyster shell is much more attractive than the greenback. Its exterior is rough and homely; its interior soft and pearly and white. Make oyster shells legal tender and the laboring man could take a lunch at a restaurant counter and carry home the shells as a net gain to his income. We have seen this idea in the new convention.

The New Hampshire Election—A Check and Warning to the Democracy.

The complexion of the news as given by later reports is somewhat different from the first returns published yesterday. It is tolerably certain that there is no election of Governor by the people; but there is no room for doubt that Cheney, the republican candidate, has come considerably nearer to an absolute majority this year than Weston, the democratic candidate, did last year. Instead of new gains the democratic party has experienced losses in the opening election of the year. This untoward result is in spite of great advantages. It is the tendency of a political revolution to increase in strength as rivers broaden in their onward flow, unless the causes to which the revolution is attributed cease to operate. But is it the democratic sentiment that the republican party has amended within the last year? On the contrary, the democratic organs have been daily avowing that it has gone on from bad to worse, constantly doing things which should more and more alienate the respect and undermine the confidence of the country. From a democratic point of view—and, indeed, from every correct point of view—the action of Grant and the measures of Congress since the beginning of the late session have outstripped and overtopped all the preceding blunders of the administration party. The "bandit" policy in Louisiana and the bold military interference with its Legislature roused general indignation, and eminent republicans, like Mr. Bryant and Mr. Everts, came before great public meetings to denounce it. The Force bill, which passed the House and failed in the Senate only because the democrats stood ready to defeat the Appropriation bills by filibustering against it, and which would have been signed by the President, who unequivocally favored it, is a bad measure, to which the party stood committed, and which the democratic press has held up to public odium as subverting the most sacred principles of the constitution, should naturally have damaged the republican party. We will not proceed with the list of recent republican misdeeds against which the democratic party has sought to rouse and agitate the country. Judging from the tone of its newspapers, the republican malversations since the meeting of Congress ought to have given a new and irresistible impetus to the great political revolution set in motion last year.

Even apart from these fresh topics of denunciation, the reaction should have gathered increasing strength. The effect of great party victories on subsequent elections is, perhaps, the most strongly marked feature in our politics. The overwhelming democratic successes in the autumn elections last year should naturally have borne fruit and have made splendid democratic triumphs this year comparatively easy. Now, how are we to explain the extraordinary, the almost enigmatical fact, that, with all these great advantages in its favor, the democratic party has lost ground in the opening election of the present year? How does it happen that a rising party, with every element of success apparently in its favor, has forfeited such magnificent chances?

The explanation is not difficult. In places where the democratic party has gained power it has not made a wise use of it. When the country has become dissatisfied with one party it is disposed to give its rival a chance. But if that rival has a character to redeem the people watch it with sleepless vigilance. They do not wish to "jump out of the frying pan into the fire." When the democratic party got control of the New Hampshire State government last year they acted in the narrowest spirit of debased politicians. The action of their Legislature last June was a public scandal. When a party acquires power only to abuse it it justly forfeits every title to public confidence. The uses which the democracy have made of their ascendancy in other States has not inspired respect. Even here in New York, where the party won its greatest triumph, it has not satisfied public expectation. The people do not see that they are better off under Governor Tilden and Mayor Wickham than they were under Governor Dix and Mayor Havemeyer. There is no improvement either in the State government or the city government. The State Executive and city Executive got once into a muddle and are so at loggerheads as to create a notorious deadlock between Albany and New York which turns the "home rule" of their platform into derision. The Governor refuses to approve the Mayor's removal of Corporation Counsel Smith because he wishes to control the appointment of Mr. Smith's successor—a matter in which the law gives him no shadow of authority to interfere. The Mayor wants to get rid of Comptroller Green, but the Governor fears that his consent would injure his Presidential prospects, and "home rule" in this city is made subordinate to the national campaign of 1876. The Mayor gets a chance to make an independent appointment by the resignation of Commissioner Van Nort, and he illustrates his singular devotion to the principle of "home rule" by importing a resident of New Jersey to dispense the patronage of the most important office in the city government. Instead of extending his political view over the whole field of national politics, as Governor Tilden does in the interest of his personal ambition, Mayor Wickham disregards "home rule" and the broader interests of the party by appointing a citizen of another State, against whom the republicans can plausibly say that he was disloyal to the Union in a great crisis, and who rests under the sentence of a court martial which disqualifies him for holding any office under the United States. For our part, we have no doubt that General Porter has been hardly dealt with; but it is no part of the duty of a Mayor of New York to redress his grievances, especially when such an act is certain to be pointed to all over the Union as a proof of the sympathetic fellowship of the democratic party with men who are a burden to be carried and not an accession of strength. Mayor Wickham, of course, did not reflect on the hostile partisan use which could be made of such an appointment, but it can nevertheless be wielded with damaging effect against the democratic party.

Outside of New Hampshire and New York, the use which the democracy have made of their power has not been calculated to strengthen the confidence of republican neophytes who came over to it last year. These new recruits from the republican ranks are easily repelled by any seeming indorsement of men against whom they formed unfavorable opinions during our great contest. It is too obvious that the permanent success of the democracy depends on their gaining and holding reinforcements from the party which kept them so long in a minority. A sagacious policy would preclude them from putting forward men who were made peculiarly odious to the republicans during the war, and thus affronting old prejudices. Instead of this, it is the clearest dictate of prudence to welcome and promote men of ability who had a strong original hold on the republican party. As a conspicuous instance of the mistakes made by the democratic party, we may mention its substitution of a small rebel general for United States Senator in place of Carl Schurz, who held every valuable principle of the democratic party, and who would have been a bond of connection between it and the republican converts who are necessary to its success. Had Mr. Schurz been re-elected Senator from Missouri and sent to New Hampshire, in place of General Gordon, to speak in this campaign, he might have saved the democratic party from this mortifying reverse. There are other similar instances of democratic mistakes in the election of Senators, but we will not refer to them now.

The lesson of the New Hampshire election, if the democrats would have the good sense to receive it, lies on the surface. They must avoid, in the interest of the South as well as their own party interest, their irrepressible tendency to Bourbonism. It is a sentiment that does not take with the country. The people desire a change of policy, but they are not willing to purchase it at the heavy expense of renouncing convictions which they cherished during the war. The democrats have presumed too much on last year's elections. They foolishly accepted them as a *carte blanche* to do anything they pleased, and are brought to a sudden and salutary check. They must make a better use of such power as they have gained if they hope to be intrusted with more.

If the republican party repudiates Grantism it has more than an even chance for carrying the next Presidential election. The republicans of New Hampshire had the sagacity to denounce the third term in their platform, and if the party in other States takes equal pains to separate its political fortunes from the personal fortunes of President Grant it may, perhaps, recover in 1876 all it lost in 1874.

A MOTTO FOR WALL STREET—Beware of Big Bonanzas.

John Mitchell.

The latest mail advices from London contain a report of another debate in the House of Commons on the case of John Mitchell. A motion was made by John Martin, M. P., calling for papers to show that the jury which tried Mitchell had been packed. In this speech Mr. Martin made an earnest appeal in behalf of a separate Parliament for Ireland, the same as is now possessed by Canada and Australia. The government replied that it could not produce the papers, and that it would be a bad precedent for the House of Commons to try over again a constitutional question which had been decided by a court and jury in Dublin. A notable circumstance was the speech of Mr. Smyth, who declared, from his own knowledge, that the statement that Mr. Mitchell had broken his parole, in escaping from Australia, was untrue. Mr. Mitchell has in the meantime delivered a lecture in Cork upon Irish politics. He was so feeble that he could not read his address, an office which was performed by a friend.

It seems to us that Mr. Disraeli could do no more magnanimous act than to pardon this lonely, feeble old man. His offence was committed nearly thirty years ago. Since then he has been a convict and in exile. His offence was altogether political. Even if he were elected to the House he would soon be lost and forgotten, if not trampled upon by the younger and more strenuous men who lead the Irish party in Parliament. As great a government as England can afford to forgive the political offences of a past generation. As shrewd a politician as Disraeli should not make a martyr of an opponent.

Alfonso and Serrano.

The meeting between Alfonso, the King of Spain, and Serrano, the old Dictator, must have been interesting. Serrano was the favorite of the Queen, Alfonso's mother. She raised him to power, rank and fortune. He served her so long as the service was profitable; and yet it was through him that the revolution which led to her overthrow succeeded. The exile of the Queen's family and her abdication are the work of Serrano. The fact that he should accept as a sovereign the son of the woman he overthrew leads us to question the sincerity of the reconciliation. Serrano belongs to the worst class of modern statesmen. His rank represents favoritism, his policy has always been rude, domineering, corrupt and arbitrary. He has been simply a soldier of fortune. The government which suits him best is the government which serves best the interests of Marshal Serrano. He served Amadeo so long as that King was disposed to listen to his counsels, and overthrew him when he proposed his own policy. He returned to Spain and offered his sword to Castelar for the purpose of suppressing the intemperate rebellion, and by his influence the Republic was overthrown by the point of the bayonet. He will support Prince Alfonso just so long as it suits his ambition. Serrano, however, is so well known in Spain that we question whether his influence is as powerful now as it has been. The men who surround the new King are not his friends, and he has betrayed so many causes successfully that they will scarcely give him an opportunity of betraying that of the new monarch.

"A PERMANENT INVESTMENT"—Big Bonanza stocks.

There are enough of us interested in the water we drink to make the reports we elsewhere print of the Croton supply especially interesting. Professor Chandler, of the Columbia College School of Mines, testifies that Croton water is not unwholesome. Dr. Doremus confirms this opinion. We have no hesitation in recommending Croton to our readers as a much more wholesome beverage than that which so many poorly fancy.

Big Bonanzas.

The details of the failure of the Big Bonanza bubble in Nevada are not pleasant reading. The manner in which this artificial speculation was created is an old story. Some daring operators obtained possession of the shares of an ordinary gold mine. Stories were slowly thrown into circulation to the effect that it had suddenly developed incredible richness, and contained gold or silver "enough to pay the national debt." There were gorgeous narratives, rivaling in their coloring the stories of the "Arabian Nights." As is always the case in these transactions, the poorer classes—who had put by savings for a rainy day, and who had resisted the opportunities of investing in government bonds at a modest five or six per cent interest—rushed in and absorbed these mining shares. In time the reaction came—the Big Bonanza was found to be only an ordinary mine after all. Those who had owned it were rich in the money they had taken from the people, and the people were robbed. We had another Big Bonanza some three or four years ago in the "diamond mines." Some miners reported in a modest way that they had discovered a territory in Colorado, we think, where diamonds and precious stones were as thick as pebbles. Suddenly a company was formed with a capital of many millions of dollars. We do not know how many shares were sold in these "diamond mines" before it was found that the precious stones had been placed there by the ingenious gentlemen who had started the company. They had been purchased in London for this very purpose. The Emma silver mine was another Big Bonanza. Here was an ordinary silver mine in Utah—not very good, we suppose, and not very bad—which, by the assistance of a United States Senator, a United States Minister and the American financial agents in London, was sold to English clergymen and widows for five million dollars. We suppose one hundred thousand dollars would have been a good price for the mine at the outset. It has faded away. The original owners of this mine are rich, but those who bought the shares, as a Big Bonanza, and can with difficulty sustain the loss, may struggle on as best they may.

We had Big Bonanza speculations during the petroleum excitement, and companies were formed to pay a thousand per cent a week, and which failed as soon as the directors had "placed the stock." Every year or so we have had these same phenomena, until we have come to the conclusion that the human mind is subject to Big Bonanza delirium as the body is to fever and ague in malarial districts. And this is not only true in the present generation, but has been so in the past, as shown in the John Law Mississippi scheme, the South Sea bubble and the tulipomania. Jay Cooke failed because he tried to sell a Big Bonanza in his Pacific Railway. The "business prosperity" that comes from the Big Bonanza excitement is like the activity that comes from fever. It is unhealthy and leads to prostration. In Wall street to-day we have the Big Bonanza feeling, as shown in the transactions in a great many stocks that have no value except for speculation. Just now we are in the height of a Big Bonanza week. We read down the stock list and find thousands of shares sold at varying prices. If they were really valuable they would be cheap, but if they have no value they must necessarily be dear. Take the transactions for the last few days, and the tendency of the street has been to deal in Big Bonanzas. "Activity" of this kind must certainly lead to disaster. There are a multitude of interests for sale in Wall street that could be properly purchased by prudent investors. The stock list is full of honest and remunerative investments, first mortgage bonds of good roads, shares of dividend-paying stocks, State bonds, New York city bonds, shares in banks and other good corporate institutions. A business activity based on purchases of this kind is a sure sign of prosperity and health. But a business prosperity founded on the Big Bonanza of untried railroads; of other railroads robbed by inside corporators and left stripped and bleeding; of still others covered with four or five mortgages, and which neither pay interest on their bonds or their stocks; of yet others which have been robbed of their land grants and subsidies by Credit Mobilier rings and which now lie abandoned on the prairies, slowly rusting into oxidized iron; companies plundered by speculators and whose very name is a synonyme of corruption and disgrace—these are the mines, the Big Bonanzas, of those who handle Wall street. Of course, so long as these desperate speculators, whose aim is to make money no matter how it is made, buy and sell these shares from each other it is none of our business. But the danger is that the outside public, the people of limited means, who are unused to the devious ways of Wall street operators, and who are too prone to follow a Big Bonanza when they hear of it, will be drawn into the street and made to suffer in these foolish investments. There never was a time when business opened with a brighter outlook, when there was a better tone and higher reasons for hopefulness. For this, and because we believe in a prosperous spring, there never was a time when more caution was necessary in dealing in bonds and stocks. Now is the opportunity for prudent men to make good investments because most values are down, and in time they must certainly rise. But what we desire to do is to warn our readers, not against honest business transactions in wholesome enterprises, but against following the Big Bonanza of the stock-jobber, which is now having a mad career in Wall street, and which, unless checked by the common sense of the people, will end in sure disaster.

THE BIG BONANZA excitement in Wall street may be described as a kind of financial chills and fever. It is malarious, enervating, contagious, and may be avoided by prudence, good habits and caution.

THE BOUNTY BILL AND MR. WILSON.—We print elsewhere a communication from a Senator of the United States, explaining the course of Mr. Wilson, the Vice President, in signing the Bounty bill.

So far as the motives of the Vice President are concerned, no one will for a moment question the entire integrity of his action. So far as the law influenced his action as Vice President, the case presented by our correspondent seems so strong as not to admit of discussion. At the same time the country will approve the action of the President in destroying this pernicious bill, and regret that Mr. Wilson, when the time came for his casting vote as Vice President, did not make as commendable a record. We have seen no reason in favor of the measure that was not entirely demagogical, and the President, in declining to sign it, commended himself to the best sense of the country.

The St. Andrew's Church Calamity—The Verdict of the Jury.

The Coroner's Jury in the St. Andrew's church disaster yesterday brought in in effect three verdicts. One, signed by ten jurors, finds (1) that the Chief of the Fire Department and his chief of battalion in charge are censurable for inefficient discharge of duty in not throwing down the west wall of the Shaw building before leaving the fire on the 12th of January; (2) that the Department of Buildings has been guilty of a violation of duty in having neglected to have the wall removed or made entirely secure in the forty-four days that intervened between the fire and the date of the calamity, as well as in having failed to warn persons in the immediate neighborhood of the danger; (3) that the architect, John B. Snook, erred in judgment in not having taken additional precautions for the security or removal of the dangerous portion of the wall, and recommends the Mayor to make application for such amendment of the Building law as will secure adequate means of egress from public buildings. Another juryman indorses this verdict, but adds on his own account an additional censure on the construction of the gallery stairways and the inward opening doors of St. Andrew's church. The remaining jurors give a separate verdict condemning the construction of the doors and stairways, finding that the chiefs of the Fire and Building departments and the architect "erred in judgment" in allowing the wall to stand, and placing the heaviest blame for "gross carelessness" on the contractor for rebuilding the Shaw building.

The duty of the Grand Jury and of the Mayor in this matter is very plain. So far as the former is concerned, indictments should be found against all who are declared to be in any degree responsible for the calamity, and each should be left to meet the charge in a court of justice before a petit jury. The measure of culpability will then be properly determined. The Mayor has now no choice but to act immediately on the evidence and the verdict, and to remove the Superintendent of Buildings. If it is really necessary under the law or under the singular interpretation put upon it by Governor Tilden to go through the farce of formal charges and a hearing, the notice to the Superintendent should be short, the trial should be pushed without a moment's needless delay and the certificates of removal, with the evidence, should be promptly sent to the Governor. We can understand why the Mayor should hesitate to make removals while the Governor holds those he has already made in his hands and neglects to pass upon them one way or the other. But this is an exceptional case, in which even Governor Tilden will see the necessity of decisive and speedy action. The Chief Engineer of the Fire Department is in the hands of the Fire Commissioners, themselves under sentence of removal. But the head of the Building Department, who is at once ignorant of the law under which he serves and, criminally neglectful of his official duties, is in the hands of the Mayor and Governor, and should not be permitted to remain a single unnecessary hour in a position for which he is so glaringly unfit.

IN DEALING IN Big Bonanza stocks the buyer should remember that the more he purchases the less he owns.

The Republic in France.

Organization of the government, in view of the new laws, proves rather a topsy-turvy game in France. Two days ago we had the names of a new Ministry, and twenty-four hours later the announcement that it could not hold together; that the Bonapartists had broken up the combination, and that MacMahon would resign, and now we have a rumored *coup d'etat*, also, of course, operated by the ubiquitous and omnipotent Bonapartists. From all of which it appears to be felt by the parties that the organization of a Ministry on the present occasion is a critical event, and one to be defeated at any cost by every interest whose claims are not satisfactorily recognized in the combination.

The despatches announce that M. Buffet has at last consented to enter the Ministry as Minister of the Interior. This would seem to be a solution of the present difficulty. M. Buffet has been President of the Assembly, and is conservative enough for the monarchists as well as honest enough for the republicans. Léon Say becomes Finance Minister—a most excellent man—while M. Dufaure as Minister of Justice will satisfy the republican sentiment. M. Wallon goes into the Cabinet, and, as the mover of the resolution which proclaimed the Republic, his name will give strength to the new government. The Duc Decazes remains in the Foreign Office, to the satisfaction, let us hope, of Bismarck, while General de Cissey retains the War Department. Bonapartists, monarchists and republicans all recognize that, in view of the very substantial advantages gained by the latter party in the recent legislation, the Ministry to be now made is of supreme importance. It is made up of men of capacity, who, if not all of them republican by conviction, are men of such sterling political honesty that, taking office under republican laws, they will sincerely endeavor to give effect to the intention of those laws. In such a case the republican system will get a fair trial, and in all likelihood be a grand success. If the Ministry had been composed of men determined against the Republic, either by predilections in favor of the empire or the monarchy, then the new laws would be administered in such a way as to secure their defeat, and the republican system would once more fail and go down.

This is the great issue, therefore, upon which the present Ministry turns. Another great piece of good providence seems to have fallen to France in the acquisition of such a Ministry as we announce this morning. It is the best combination yet made at any time since the cataclysm of 1870. Every name in it is that of a man of experience, of fair

talent and of sufficient honesty for the occasion; and it has the great merit of being without extravagance in any feature. An earnest of the good faith of the new Ministry is seen in the report from Paris that M. Dufaure has drawn up a programme, electing the new Senate in September, dissolving the Assembly in October and removing martial law from all of France but the revolutionary districts of Paris, Lyons and Marseilles. If this programme is adopted it will show that the Republic has been accepted by MacMahon in good faith.

Rapid Transit.

The proposal of the Metropolitan Rapid Transit Railway Company to build a railway from the Battery to the Harlem depot has taken official shape, and the people are asked to subscribe for bonds to enable the owners to complete this work. As we have said on so many occasions our policy is to support every scheme of rapid transit until we get the right one. This road will suit us as well as any other if the managers are honest in their scheme and do not mean to trifle with the people, as so many railway corporations have done in the past. Its projectors propose to build an elevated railway with two tracks, and to have it constructed in from six to twelve months. We see no reason why the company should not accomplish it.

At the same time the plan that should be considered now is the connection of the Greenwich street Elevated Railway, which is now running, with the Harlem depot. We see no reason why a road could not be built on Forty-fourth street, for instance, connecting this line with the Harlem depot, or why it might not even be run along Thirty-fourth or Thirty-second street, connecting with the tunnel under Park Avenue, which could be used by steam engines. The truth is we have rapid transit, in one direction, from Thirty-fourth street to the Battery, and from Forty-second street to Westchester, in another direction. The problem of bridging this small space is so simple that we marvel there should be any delay about it. Let us take what we have, complete it and then assist our friends of the Metropolitan Rapid Transit Company and all others who have honest railway schemes of rapid transit.

A Model Legislative Printing Office.

The firm of Weed, Parsons & Co. is well known in Albany. Its name figures prominently in the supply bills of the past fifteen or twenty years, and the services it renders to the State are of sufficient value to be acknowledged by very liberal annual appropriations. A few years ago we remember that Mr. John D. Parsons, one of the partners, gave testimony before a legislative investigating committee that he had paid a notorious lobbyist ten thousand dollars to look after the interests of the firm in the matter of supply bill items. The same member of the firm now gives evidence in the matter of the substitution of an altered bill to improve Fifth Avenue by the application of a police pavement for the genuine bill reported by the committee of the Assembly. From his testimony it appears that the legislative printers did the job for a private party, and not for the Clerk of the Assembly. Mr. Parsons adds, "If a gentleman calls on us and asks us to print a bill, with the indorsement that it had been favorably reported by a committee of the Assembly, we would certainly print it, if he paid for it." This sort of business may increase the receipts of the firm, but we would suggest that it may lead to many frauds on the Legislature. We should imagine it to be the duty of a legislative printing office to refuse to print any matter in an official and apparently authorized form without receiving ample proof that it is a genuine and not a fraudulent document.

EVERY INDICATION points to a thriving spring, business activity and a season of wholesome prosperity. But do not let our sensible people destroy this by yielding to the Big Bonanza fever.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Varley, the revivalist, is always ready, and bluffs like a backsmith. Mr. Morse, keeper of an "American bar" in Paris, has disappeared. Vice President Henry Wilson left this city yesterday for Washington. Mr. Frederic E. Church, the artist, has apartments at the Brevoort House. Governor Henry Howard, of Rhode Island, is residing at the Metropolitan Hotel. Mr. William G. Fargo, of Buffalo, is among the late arrivals at the St. James Hotel. Mr. Benson J. Lossing, of Chestnut Ridge, N. Y., is registered at the Colman House. General Joseph S. Whitney, of Boston, has taken up his residence at the Windsor Hotel. Professor Joseph Winlock, of Cambridge, Mass., is sojourning at the Westminster Hotel. Boston will have her "back up" more constantly than ever if Mr. Backus is made Postmaster. Mr. Charles F. Powell, United States Vice Consul at Callao, Peru, is at the Grand Central Hotel. Mr. Joseph H. Robinson, Assistant Solicitor of the Treasury, has arrived at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. There was recently a sale at Paris of ancient arms, and a sword of the sixteenth century brought \$10,000. The Paris *Figaro* informed its readers February 23 that "yesterday was the anniversary of American independence." Sir Alexander T. Galt, of Montreal, arrived from Europe in the steamship Cuba yesterday and is at the Brevoort House. Captain George Lebon, of the French army, and Captain Shvan, of the Russian navy, are quartered at the St. Cloud Hotel. Congressman Steven A. Harburt, of Illinois, and R. Holland Duell, of New York, are stopping at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Congressman William A. Wheeler, of New York, and Charles Foster, of Ohio, arrived from Washington yesterday at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Somebody is wanted in London to purchase the machinery invented by the last man who tried to fly, and who is now in the bosom of Abraham. Walter C. Collins, of Reuter's Telegram Company, of London, has temporarily assumed the management of the New York office. Dr. Jucos, the agent here for some time past, has sailed for Europe. Daniel Dougherty lectures this evening at the Philadelphia Academy of Music on "American Politics"—a lecture which made a great impression in New England as a terrific arraignment of the degeneracy of affairs in public life. Neither side will call Bowen, because each side wants to cross-examine him. Each believes that this man's true value as a witness lies in what can be got out of him against the other side—in short, that he is worth more for his "crossedness" than for his good will. The Liverpool *Mercury* of February 27 says:—Ministers are considered to have placed themselves in a position of great embarrassment by their action on the Tipperary election, and it is thought not improbable that the Queen will be advised to pardon Mitchell.